



The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society's

EXCITER

November 2008

Issue No. 452

LOOK INSIDE FOR DETAILS:

- The RARS General Meeting is the 1st Tuesday of the month.
- The RARS net meets every night @ 8 pm on 146.64.
- The RARS Technical and Trader's net is Saturdays @ 8:30 pm or following the RARS net.
- RARS meets for a monthly dinner on the 2nd Tuesday of each month.

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Location Updates!

The November RARS Meeting will be back at the Forest Hills Baptist Church on November 4.

The RARS Monthly Dinner for November 11 and December 9 will be held at the Perkins Restaurant, 2657 Appliance Court in Raleigh. The eatery is located off of Capital Blvd., just north of I-440. Several members have suggested that the dinner location be changed. Perkins has a large variety of items on their menu, including senior and children's sections, and they serve breakfast anytime. Perhaps a change of scenery will spur some additional interest in this enjoyable event. All are welcome.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

**Column by Selene Montgomery KG4RMT
RARS President**

The October RARS meeting featured the annual auction. Special thanks go to Cliff Broughton AG4XR for a stellar job as auctioneer. Cliff and I would both like to thank his "helpers" who were instrumental in keeping things moving. I'd also like to thank everyone who helped with the setup and break down of the room.

Many of you have helped with the various public service events that have taken place over the last couple of months. Thank you for putting amateur radio in front of the public in a variety of ways.

The November RARS meeting will be held at Forest Hills Baptist Church on November 4 in Room 350. There will be VE testing in Room 360. The agenda will include the election of officers, and the program will be Backup Emergency Battery Power presented by John Mayfield WA9SZL. As usual, refreshments will be available at 7 PM and the meeting will begin at 7:30 PM.

(Continued on page 3.)

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The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Inc. (RARS) was founded in 1969 and continues to serve and support the Amateur Radio community in the greater Triangle area. In 1999, the society incorporated a new RARS and obtained 501(c)(3) non-profit tax status.

The objectives of the club are to promote worldwide friendship through amateur radio; to be of public service by providing

radio communications in times of disaster, emergency, or civic need; to educate members in radio technique; and to provide training classes to assist in obtaining amateur radio licenses.

Anyone interested in amateur radio is eligible to apply for membership. Dues for regular licensed amateurs are \$18 per year (from July 1 through June 30). Additional immediate family mem-

bers pay \$5 each per year. Dues for licensed amateurs older than 59 or younger than 16 are \$12 per year. Dues for non-licensed associate members are \$9 per year. Applications for membership may be obtained from the treasurer or on the RARS website (RARS.org).



The *Exciter*

The *Exciter* is the official newsletter of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society. It appears each month as a PDF on the RARS website at www.rars.org. Members receive email notification when the latest version is available. Please provide your email address to the Treasurer.

The *Exciter* welcomes articles, advertising, and other contributions. To submit a piece to the newsletter, please contact the Editor.

The views expressed in the *Exciter* are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor or RARS.

The Editor reserves the right to edit any and all pieces.

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President's Corner (continued from page 1)

The December RARS meeting will be held at First Alliance Church on December 2 so that we can have the necessary space to enjoy the entertainment and food layout for our holiday gathering. Make plans to enjoy the evening with your family.

In an effort to increase participation in the RARS monthly dinners, several members suggested that we select a different restaurant for our gathering. On November 11 and December 9, the monthly dinner will be held at the Perkins Restaurant off of Capital Boulevard, just north of I-440.

A busy time of the year is approaching, but I hope you'll continue to support the various club activities. The time we spend together will increase our appreciation of each other and our hobby.

RARS General Meeting

Date: First Tuesday of each month

Location: Forest Hills Baptist Church
201 Dixie Trail
Raleigh, NC 27607

Time: People begin arriving at 7 pm. The meeting officially begins at 7:30 pm.

RARS Monthly Dinner

Join us on the 2nd Tuesday of each month for the RARS dinner. It's open to everyone: RARS members, non-members, friends, and family – feel free to bring your little ones!

For November and December locations, see page 1. Dinner begins at 6:30 pm.

RARS Repeaters in Raleigh

145.13 (82.5 PL), 146.64, & 444.525 (82.5 PL)

Join us for the nightly RARS net @ 8 pm on the 146.64. All hams holding a Technician class license or higher are invited to checkin. We welcome both RARS and non-RARS members to the net.

VE Testing

The RARS VEs will accept walk-in testing at the February, May, August, and November RARS meetings; the RARSfest in April; the Cary Swapfest in July; the JARSfest in November; and following RARS license classes.

Please bring a photo ID, your current license, a copy of your current license, and any CSCEs you have for credit. Visit www.rars.org for more information.



September 2008 RARS Net Reports

Checkins: 407	Special Interest Nets:
Traffic: 32/28	Checkins: 130
Minutes: 620	Minutes: 490
Sessions: 30	Sessions: 13

Upcoming Hamfests

November 8	ARRL Alabama Section Convention Montgomery, AL http://www.w4ap.org/modules.php?name=Hamfest
November 16	20th Annual JARSFEST Benson, NC http://jars.net/JARSFEST.htm
December 6-7	Tampa Bay Hamfest Palmetto, FL http://fgcarc.org/
January 10	Winston-Salem FirstFest Winston-Salem, NC http://www.w4nc.com/
January 10	TechFest 2009 Lawrenceville, GA http://www.gars.org/
February 7	FrostFest (ARRL State Convention) Richmond, VA http://www.frostfest.com/

November

RARS Meeting

The November program will be a presentation by John Mayfield WA9SZL on Backup Emergency Battery Power. Check out www.rars.org for more info.

November Birthdays

Joe	WA4GIR	11/2
Carroll	KD4JH	11/7
Clayton	KE4DOX	11/7
Jeff	AC4ZO	11/8
Ashby	W5PGX	11/11
Joshua	KF4ZXK	11/15
Glenn	WA4LHE	11/16
Eric	N4GOP	11/18
Rolf	K8SL	11/19
Mark	WD4KSE	11/21
John	N4OZL	11/21
Donald	KJ4DNI	11/21
Scott	KI4OCF	11/24
Terri	N4ZUD	11/25
Ray	KC4JWK	11/26
Doug	N3LTV	11/26
Clare	N2RJB	11/30

Welcome to RARS!

Brooks Bowman	KJ4GJM
Gale Bowman	K4GGB
Harold McCullough, Jr.	No License

Red Cross Success

Information from Chuck Littlewood K4HF, 2008 Ops Coordinator

Thanks go to the following folks for helping out at the 2008 Red Cross Communications Center during the recent NC State Fair.

Al Nickle - KE4IHX
Bernard Blackmon - W4BRB
Bill McClymont - W1REP
Charles Swindell - WB4DCM
Dave West - K14ZBY
Gary Pearce - KN4AQ
Jim McRight - KB4BZ
Joe Rizza - N1LVN
John Snellen - A14RT
Karl Bowman - W4CHX
Mark Womack - AJ4KZ
Matt Jones - K14ZIB
Mike Murphy - WA4BPJ
Phillip Jones - KG4IVD
Robin Lane - K14LEC
Rod Gilvey - AB4RG
Rod Thomson - K14LSN
Sharon Murphy - KD4ACK
Tina Dotson
Warren Chou

Minutes of the RARS Board Meeting on September 16, 2008

The Board of Directors of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society held it's monthly meeting on Tuesday, September 16, 2008 at the Triangle Radio Reading Service on Six Forks Road, Raleigh. The following people were present: Chuck K4HF, Hank K4HM, Selene KG4RMT, John A14RT, Steve KJ4BX, Ken K14OTO, Gary KN4AQ, Greg KE4-PAX, Rod K14LSN, Alan AB4OZ, Cliff AG4XR, Justin K14WAF, Mike KB7NLA, and Charlie WB4DCM.

The meeting was called to order by President Selene KG4RMT at 7:05PM. The minutes of the last Board meeting were approved as amended. The Secretary will forward a corrected copy to the Board. President Selene announced that Todd Ellis N2XL and Joe Rizza N1LVN will run the JOTA. The next club meeting will be the auction which will be located at the First Alliance Church.

Steve KJ4BX announced that his daughter took the Tech Class and passed. Everything is set for the auction at the church. The doors will open at 6:45 PM and we do not have a closing time.

Public Service John A14RT announced that there were 2600 riders at the MS Bike event in New Bern. The following items of public service are scheduled: 9-18-08 Light the Night Walk in Durham, 9-27-08, Step out for Diabetes, 10-18/19-08 Easter Seals Ride Without Limits, 11-1-08 Beach to Battleship Triathlon in Wilmington, and 11-2-08 City of Oaks Raleigh Marathon.

Chuck K4HF is working with the Red Cross to get radio operators for the NC Fair. There is a link on RARS homepage to sign up and get information. Mike KB7NLA commented that he had no experience with public service and wonder if his vision limitation would keep him from helping.

Hank K4HM announced that there would be a Hamfest meeting coming up. We have a conflict with Morganton and that they are unhappy, but we tried our best to avoid conflicts and keep them apprised of our date. Ken KI4OTO expressed the need for our meetings to be centrally located. We will be the 2009 ARRL NC State Convention. The special events station, N4C will also be available. Then there was discussion about having the hamfest on the second Saturday of each April even if that falls on Easter weekend. It was the thoughts of the Board that this might be more of a problem for our dealers than our attendees.

Treasurer Greg KE4PAX reported that we now have 219 paid members and that a notice has been sent to previous members to get them to re-join RARS. Rent on the storage unit is due. He announced that TRRS is having a fund raiser. Since TRRS allows us to use their board room, a motion was approved to buy one ticket from RARS. A financial review committee, made up of WB4DCM, AI4RT, K4HM and KE4PAX should review the RARS Books by next Board Meeting. A motion was approved to donate \$50 to First Alliance Church each time we use their facilities.

VP Rick KB4TKQ will not be available to do the auction, so Cliff AG4XR will do auction duty. Donations for refreshments at the September meeting exceeded the costs of the refreshments.

Cliff AG4XR stated that for the auction, that reserves should be placed on a 3X5 note card rather than on the specific item. That will expedite handling.

Director Ken KI4OTO advised that he was working on a letter to be included in VW's to allow the owner to donate the solar cell to RARS.

Old Business:

- No one has heard from the three N.C. State students that visited the September meeting.
- The Secretary reported that a digital recorder has not been purchased.
- There was discussion about the format for the December meeting. Should we have gifts for children, decorations, snacks, or a sit down supper? A motion was approved to expend \$100 for four door prizes for the Christmas program and to provide drinks and entertainment, if available.
- There was discussion about an extensive inventory list of RARS property.

New Business:

- There was no new business.

Board Comments:

- Gary KN4AQ announced that the filters for the repeater had been received but that it would be a while before they would be installed. He also indicated that there is now a D-STAR repeater in Raleigh. It is K4ITL on 442.2125 MHz.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:36 PM

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society held its general meeting on Tuesday, October 7, 2008 at the First Alliance Church on Buffaloe Rd in Raleigh, N.C. There were 60 people present including four visitors, Charles KJ4FFF, Kirk KI4RK, Jon KJ4DAK and returning new member, Chuck KB4MDZ.

The meeting was called to order by President Selene KG4RMT at 7:32 PM. The minutes of the last meeting were approved as published. The Treasurer reported that we now have 225 members plus two new renewals.

The following announcements were made by President Selene:

- The next Board meeting will be on Tuesday, October 21 at the Triangle Radio Reading Service on Six Forks Road. All club members are invited.
- The November meeting will be back at the Forest Hills Baptist Church on Dixie Trail.
- The November meeting will include election of officers. The installation will occur at the December meeting.
- The RARS Holiday meeting will be back at the First Alliance Church on Buffaloe Road.
- Thanks for the contributions to help pay for refreshments.
- John AI4RT Public Service Coordinator announced that the Ride Without Limits would be October 18 & 19. The City of Oaks Marathon will be November 2. Go to hampublicservice.org to volunteer.

Chuck K4HF then reported for the Nominating Committee. The following slate was presented for 1 year terms: VP Karl W4CHX, Treasurer Greg KE4PAX, Public Service Director John AI4RT, Public Information Officer Gary KN4AQ, RARS Hamfest Chair 2009 John AI4RT, RARS Exciter Editor Courtney KI4HOS, RARS Net Manager Mary KG4OQA, At-Large Director Rod KI4LSN, At-Large Director Steve KJ4BX, At-Large Director Ken KI4OTO, FM Repeater Chair Gary KN4AQ, W4DW & W4RNC Trustee Jeff AC4OZ, ARRL Liaison Chuck K4HF, Education Director Virginia NC4VA, and RARS Web Master Hank K4HM. The following committee chairmen were presented: RARS Hospitality Chair Mary Jo K4MJL, RARS 2009 Field Day Chair Mike WA4BPJ, and RARS Volunteer Exam Coordinators Liz K04CK and Joe WA4GIR. The election will take place at the November meeting with installation at the December meeting.

The meeting was then turned over to Cliff AG4XR as auctioneer at 7:45 for the annual RARS auction. The fun began. There were 86 items up for auction and the last one sold for \$1 at 10:10 PM. The auction flowed smoothly. Cliff's helpers would bring up an item for auction. When sold, it was carried to the buyer and a new item was brought up by another helper for sale. Many club members remained until the completion of the auction. It was very entertaining and a lot of good STUFF (?) changed hands.

The meeting was immediately adjourned following the sale of the final item.



The **RARS Technical & Trader's net** is held on Saturday evenings on the 146.64 after the 8 pm RARS net.

Amateur Radio Nets



The **VOIP Hurricane net** is held Sundays at 00:00 UTC on the 146.775 repeater with a tone of 88.5 (IRLP node 4260). For information about activation details, go to www.voipwx.net.

Please join us on the **Carolina 440 net** every Monday night at 7:30 pm. This ragchew net utilizes the Carolina 440 UHF Link Repeater System. Comprised of the Raleigh, Down East, and Costal Wilmington link systems, there are currently 19 repeaters on the system, covering 21,168 square miles. For a list of these repeaters, please visit www.carolina440.net.



CAROLINA 440
UHF Link System
www.carolina440.net

Join us every evening at 8 pm on the 146.64 repeater for the **RARS Two Meter net**. You can give a ragchew, check in and out (this counts for our total numbers reported to the ARRL!), make announcements, and pass traffic. We also offer National Traffic System traffic training. All licensed stations are welcomed to participate in the net as often as they can. This net is also a great way to learn about amateur radio if you are newly licensed!

The **PCTN (Piedmont Coastal Traffic Net)** meets every night at 9 pm on the 146.88. The purpose of the net is to handle/pass NTS formal messages. Amateur stations are encouraged to check-in and participate. The backup repeater is the 147.105 machine with a PL tone of 82.5.





Join the **Tarheel Short Wave Listening (SWL) Special Interest Group (SIG)** net on Monday evenings @ 9 pm on 146.64. We discuss all areas of radio monitoring and welcome your logs! We also have a SWL/SIG meeting on the third Monday of the month in addition to our regular net.

Central Carolina SKYWARN

Please join us each Tuesday at 9:15 pm on the 146.88 repeater for the CCS net. On each net there are announcements, check-ins by county, and often a program or training spot. Check us out at www.centralcarolinaskywarn.net.



November 4: "Mobile Warning Alert Messaging Application: MAMA" by NWS Warning Coordination Meteorologist Jeff Orrock KI4KKX.

November 11: "Winter Weather Outlook" with NWS Lead Forecaster Phil Badgett.



The **Wake County ARES** net meets Thursdays around 2115 on the 146.88 repeater. We provide discussion and training for the implementation and provision of Emergency Communications for our served agencies, such as the American Red Cross and the local and state Emergency Operations Center. Please join us. www.wakeares.org.

Same net – new name! The Mercury Amateur Radio Association Southeast 2 Meter net is becoming the **Apex Emergency Response Communications net (Apex ERC)**. The name change is effective March 30, 2008. The net will still meet at 9 pm Sunday evenings on the 146.64 repeater (temporarily). All stations are invited to participate in this net. The organization provides emergency communication support to The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. The purpose of this net is to assist ham radio operators in preparing to respond to emergencies, test their equipment, improve operating skills, pass traffic, and to provide those with a common interest an opportunity to meet.

The RARS

~~Exciter~~

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PERMIT NO. 2130

Future Meeting Information

The December meeting will be held at First Alliance Church, 4400 Buffaloe Rd, Raleigh, NC on Dec.2nd. This gathering will include entertainment and prize drawings. Members are asked to bring a snack to share.